TreeBaltimore
Doubling Baltimore's tree canopy one tree at a time

Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks

❧ What is tree canopy?
Imagine you are a bird flying above the trees, looking down on Baltimore City. The tree leaves and branches that cover the ground when viewed from above are tree canopy.   20% of Baltimore is covered by tree canopy.

❧ What is the tree canopy goal?
With present practices, Baltimore is losing Tree Canopy. However, Baltimore City is committed to reversing this trend and increasing the tree canopy to 40%, or doubling it.   Our success depends on the involvement of the entire civic community.
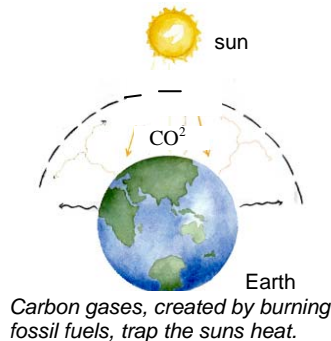
❧ Why Increase the tree canopy?
It's about quality of life!
Our urban forest:
- Provides shade to mitigate temperatures
- Beautifies our community
- Cleans our air and water
- Provides wildlife habitat
- Increases our property values and
- Makes Baltimore a better place to live
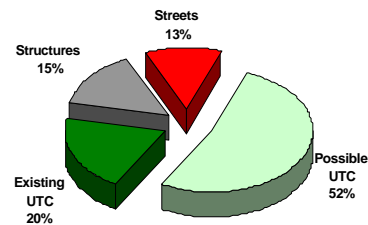
❧ What is carbon sequestration?
One of the most important functions of the urban forest is removing carbon from the atmosphere that contributes to global warming and climate change. Trees store the carbon in a process called carbon sequestration.

Carbon gases, created by burning fossil fuels, trap the suns heat.

❧ Why Now?
Nation-wide, policy makers increasingly recognize the value of trees in solving some of our environmental problems. In December of 2003, the Chesapeake Executive Council signed a Riparian Forest Buffer Directive that included setting goals for tree canopy in urban areas in order to protect the Chesapeake Bay from the pollutants in urban runoff.

A study performed by MD Department of Natural Resources & USDA Forest Service measured Baltimore's existing tree canopy, 20%, and determined the possible tree canopy. Using this information, the City adopted a 40% goal in thirty years, or doubling our canopy.

Baltimore City land cover analysis,
MD Department of Natural Resources & US Forest Service

❧ How do I get involved?
1. Baltimore's *Draft* Urban Forest Management Plan is available for review. The plan identifies ways to:
- Preserve existing trees and forests
- Improve the tree-growing environment
- Select trees for diversity and suitability
- Increase space for tree planting opportunities
- Improve the regulatory framework
- Educate the public on the value of trees and tree care
- Build capacity for tree planting and care in the public & private sectors

Download a copy at:
http://www.ci.baltimore.md.us/government/recnparks/treeBaltimore.html or contact Myra Brosius, TreeBaltimore Coordinator, 410 396-6109 for questions or to get on our e-mail list!

2. Learn about policies and procedures of the Forestry Division: Rebecca Feldberg, City Arborist 410 396-6109; rebecca.feldberg@baltimorecity.gov
www.ci.baltimore.md.us/government/recnparks/forestry.htm

3. Request a street tree from the Forestry Division: Mike Morris, 410 396-6109,
michael.morris@baltimorecity.gov

4. Participate in the Community Tree Steward, Community Forestry, or Weed Warrior programs of the Department of Recreation and Parks: Hugo Lam, Office of Park Conservation and Community Outreach, (410) 396-0339;
Hugo.Lam@baltimorecity.gov

5. Participate in the Community Greening Stewardship Program, Parks and People Foundation: Jaleel Nash at 410-448-5663, ext. 103;
info@parksandpeople.org